HONOR ME 2001 OLD UNION MINISTERS SCHOOL Elder Dexter Bacon

A dictionary in my study presents various meanings of the word honor, among which are: (1) high regard or great respect, given, received or enjoyed; (2) good reputation; (3) adherence to action or principles considered right: also as a verb honor is used these ways: (1) TO SHOW great respect or high regard for; (2) TO WORSHIP. Certainly, when reflecting upon these meanings, I know that I do not deserve any honor. The Lord does deserve honor and should be honored.

As recorded in John 5:23 Jesus declares (that the Father desires) "That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father." In verses 21 and 22 we learn some reasons why all men should honor the Son. The Son "quickeneth whom He will" and the Father "hath committed all judgment unto the Son." The unbelieving Jews would not honor the Son (verse 18) and therefore they were dishonoring the Father as well as the Son.

God sent a man to Eli to tell him- - -"them that honor me I will honor- -." (I Samuel 2:30). God will recognize those who are faithful in service to Him.

As recorded in I Samuel, chapter 15 King Saul completely disobeyed God's instructions then God sent Eli to inform Saul that God knew of his disobedience and that the Lord had rent the Kingdom of Israel from him and had given it to a better man. At this Saul said, "I have sinned: yet honor me now--before the elders of my people and before Israel--." (I Samuel 15:30). Saul's method of "honoring God" did not seem to be genuine.

God once spoke of a people who "with their lips do honor me, but have removed their heart far from me." (Isaiah 29:13). That type of service does not honor God. God said, "The beast of the field shall honor me" Isaiah 43:20.

Jesus received honor and glory from God the Father on the Mt. Of Transfiguration (II Peter 1:17) and Peter, James and John witnessed that. (Matthew 17:48).

Paul taught that those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary and we bestow more abundant honor upon them. (I Corinthians 12:22,23).

Also Paul told Timothy, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the word and doctrine" I Timothy 5:17. Those elders who were faithful in the work God called them into should not go in need as the next verse illustrates. Evidently God knew

there would be some "vessels" to honor and some "vessels" to dishonor in His House. II Timothy 2:20-26.

SHOW ME THY GLORY

Moses requested of God, "Show me thy glory." God answered, "I will make my goodness pass before thee- -." (Exodus 33:18-19). When God is glorified man will be able to see God's goodness.

THE GREATEST GOOD

Paul spoke of faith, hope and charity and then declared, "But the greatest of these is charity." Paul said a person could have faith to remove mountains yet without charity, he would be nothing.

Then Paul continues in I Corinthians, chapter 13 to explain why charity was the greatest. We as God called ministers need to temper our labor with those qualities laid out there.